



Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2024

Enjoying and excelling in the presence of God

Head Teacher welcome

Thank you for such a warm welcome to your school community. I have had a lovely first week at school meeting your children and working with the staff team. I will be working alongside Mrs Duncan, Head of School, this year. I also work at St Charles' Catholic School and I will be sharing my time across the week between both schools. I have been impressed at how calm and polite the children have been and they look very smart in their new uniform. Please do come and say hello on the playground when I am around. I look forward to meeting you all over the course of the school year.

I am looking forward to working with all of the staff team to provide the best possible education for your children.

Mrs Nealings

RE

Fr. Jonathon came into school today and welcomed all the children back. Years 3-6 are looking forward to celebrating Mass with him at St. Anthony's at 10am on Tuesday. Families are welcome to join us.

For all of those Year 4 children who are wishing to make their First Communion this year, the first parent session will take place at St. Teresa's on Tuesday 24th September at 6:30pm.

Fr. Jonathon would also like to invite you all to a children's harvest mass on Saturday 28th September at St. Anthony's Church at 5:30pm.

Staffing

This new academic year, we welcome Miss Ridley and Mr Gibson to our school staff. There are still some staff who are off sick but we hope to have them back in school soon.

Curriculum

This week the children have been spending time getting to know their class staff and routines.

The next few weeks art and history will be the focus of our topic work.

Journals

Next week, your child will receive a copy of their school journal with their reading book. The home-school agreement is an important document within the journal and needs to be signed by your child, their teacher and you, as their parent. Please ensure that you discuss this with your child and sign the document as it contains lots of important information, including our school rules.

The uniform policy, **including the wearing of jewellery**, is also in the journal, so please see this for guidance, as we have noticed children returning to school with jewellery or items of clothing which are not in line with our policy.

Clubs

Breakfast and after school clubs are available for children from Reception to Year 6. These sessions, each costing £2.00, must be booked in advance. Children can be dropped off at the office, no earlier than 8.00am and no later than 8:15am and children attending all after school clubs must be collected from the office at 4:15pm.

This year there will also be a £2.00 charge for other extra-curricular clubs such as football and basketball. Please see the attached clubs timetable which will recommence next week. Please return the slip if you wish for your child to be added to the club register.

Healthy Eating

As we promote healthy eating in our school, can you please ensure that if your child wishes to have a breaktime snack, that only fruit or vegetables are brought in. Early Years and Key Stage 1 children are provided with a school snack.

Our lunch menu is available from the school office, should you wish to collect a copy and discuss it with your child. If your child has a packed lunch, we would encourage you to limit the amount of sugary treats. Please remember that fizzy drinks are not permitted.

Birthdays

Children who have their birthdays in term-time, enjoy celebrating them in school with their friends. However, can we please ask that you do not send large birthday cakes that requiring cutting into school, as we have limited time and we must be mindful of those children with dietary requirements. You may wish to send in a small, individually wrapped treat which can be sent home with children at the end of the day.

Upcoming Reminders

Photographers are expected to be in school on **Monday 30th September** from 8:30am to take class and individual photographs.

Flu immunisations are due to be given on the **2nd October**. Parents will have received an email this week with further information. No child will be given this immunisation without parental consent. Below is the link and school number.

<https://www.northumbriaimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

The school code is: NB108515

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to working alongside you and your children this year.

Mrs Duncan and all the staff at St Alban's.